the immediate place of his business was sometimes in other cities, he virtually continued a citizen of the metropolis. It was on February 12, 1791, when Washington had just entered upon his second term of office as President of the United States, when France was about to shake the world with its tremendous revolution, and while Pitt and George III. were governing England, that Peter Cooper was born. The population of the United States was then only about twice that of New-York and Brooklyn at the present day. New-York itself was inhabited by careely 30,000 people; City Hall Park was a garden; the limits of the city on the north were at Chambers-st.: people dressed in home soun; and the wealthy families, whose descendants are now in Fifth-ave., lived at Bowling Green. The humble home of the parents to whom this child was born,

in Fifth-ave., lived at Bowling Green. The humble home of the parents to whom this child was born, was then in Little Dock-st., since become a part of Water-st. They named him Peter, after the great Apostle, because the father believed he had been told to do so in a dream. The family was poor and Peter was one of nine children. In their home the father kept a smail hat-store, but he was not formed to achieve success in business: he seemed to lack perseverance and ambition, though he had served galiantly in the War of Independence, in which he held the rank of fieutonant. When the British ships appeared in the harbor he was one of those who went over to Governor's Island during the night and put up fortifications for the defence of the city. Peter's mother was of different mould. She had Scotch blood in her veins and had been educated among the Moravians in Pennsylvania, where her moral mature was developed and strengthened. She has been described as a person in whom there was a rare blending of sweetness and fire, of force and tendercoss. Her father was John Campbell, once an Alderman of the city, who had been a deputy quarternaster-general in the Kevolution and had expended a considerable private fortune in the service of the Colonies.

Young Peter's life early became one of hardship. After he had reached his third year his father removed to Duane-st, and Broadway with his little hat store, and as soon as the son was old enough to do any work he was employed in the business with the other children. His first work was pulling hair and cutting fur. The advantages of school were denied him. In all his life he only went every other day for a single year. In his father's store he was very useful, and before he was fifteen years of age was able to make a hat. But the father became dissatisted with his business. He was fond of a country life, and tinally sold out to his eldest son by a former wife, and removed to Peckskill, where he opened a country store and built a little church. Later than this he began the brewin him than it cost.

STARTING IN BUSINESS FOR HIMSELF. Peter Cooper, now seventeen years of age, resolved to go to New-York; he was ambitious and believed there were better opportunities for him in his native city than anywaers else. He applied for work, going almost everywhere in search of a posi-

cation to contend with. His employers hat offered to stare him in business. He debated the subject; it was apparently a tempting opportunity for a poor young man. But Peter Cooper had foresight then as in after years. To accept the offer would throw him into debt which he could not pay without mortgaging his future career. He accordingly declined it. The decision proved a fortunatione; for in the war with Great Britain, which came soon a terward, the demand for carriages decreased and his proposed venture would have been disastrous. On the other hand, the course he finally took resulted in success.

and his proposed venture would have been disastions. On the other hand, the course he finally took resulted in success.

He went to Hempstead, Long Island, where he worked for two years in a woolien factory at \$1.50 per day and invented a machine for shearing nap from cloth. It was patented and had a rapid saie at the time of the war, when woollen cloths were in great demand. When Mr. Cooper, clated at his prosperity, had accumulated \$500 he went one day to Newburg and found his parents in affliction from inability to pay their debts. His \$500 vas given to them, and relieved the pressing claims. Mr. Cooper then became surety for those which were not yet matured, and continued the manufacture of his machines so that he was able to save his father from hankynntey. These machines were made on the

yet matured, and continued the manufacture of his machines so that he was able to save his father from bankruptey. These machines were made on the same principle as mowing-machines now are, though it was long before mowing-machines had been invented. A friend at the time suggested that Mr. Cooper make a grass-mower after the same design, which he did and used it successfully in his friend's yard. But when the war closed foreign competition in woollen cloths increased and but mess athome suffered a corresponding decline. Mr. Cooper then became a cabinet-manufacturer, and opened a furniture store which he kept for a short time, and then resolved to return again to his native city.

During his residence on Long Island he had, however, taken an important step in his life, which continued all through his subsequent career to contribute to its usefulness and prosperity. In 1813, when twenty-two years of age, he married Miss Sarau Bedel, of Hempstead, who hived most hatpily with him until 1869, when she died, on the anniversary of their wedding day. She was a woman of rare qualities. Since her death Mr. Cooper has said: "She was the day-star, the soliden wedding, celebrated in 1863, is pleasantly remembered by the many who were present. Six children were born to them, four of whom died in childhood. The serviving ones are Eaward Cooper, of this city, and Mrs. Sarah Amelia Hewitt, wife of Abram S. Hewitt.

During his residence at Hempstead Mr. Cooper

of this city, and Mrs. Sarah Amelia Hewitt, wife of Abram S. Hewitt.

During his residence at Hempstead Mr. Cooper made the acquaintance of William Cobbett, who had left England after the close of the wars with Napoleon, and coming to this country had taken a farm at North Hempstead, where he continued vehemently to assail "the sons and daughters of corruption" in his Beckly Political kepister. Before Mr. Cooper left Hempstead he had bought a house and lot in the village, but he sold them, together with his slore, when he came to New-York, where he opened a grocery store at the Bowery and Rivingion-st. He only remained there one year, and then bought the unexpired lease for nineteen years of the ground and frame buildings where the American Bible House now stands. Business became very profitable in the new store. Its location was favorable. The present Third-ave, was then known as "the Old Boston Road," and Fourth-ave, was "the Old Middie Road."

BEGINNING OF THE GLUE ENTERPRISE.

BEGINNING OF THE GLUE ENTERPRISE. But Mr. Cooper did not remain in the grocery business very long. One day John Vreeland, a man then well known throughout the city as a hardware merchant at Broadway and Ann-st., of whom Mr. Cooper had purchased tools while in the carriage factory as an apprentice and afterward while making furniture on Long Island, at the store and asked why Mr. Cooper did not buy out the glue factory on the Old Middle Road. This factory occupied a part of

year after he opened it; and finally sold out this

vear after he opened it; and finally sold out this business to carry on a glue factory—six changes in nine years. This might be regarded as an evidence of instability and fickieness. But at every step there was a movement for the better. He lost no money; on the contrary, he constantly increased his accumulations. The last change was for a permanency. He continued his business in the same place for twenty-five years, and when he finally made an alteration it was only to build a larger factory on cheaper ground, and to remain a glue manufacturer until he died.

When the property on the Old Middle Road was bought the glue made in this country was of very poor quality. The glue most in use came from Ireland, and was sold for three times as much as that made in America. Mr. Cooper saw no reason why as good glue should not be manufactured here as in Ireland; he studied the matter thoroughly, and carried on an extensive series of experiments. It was not long before he was making a better grade of glue than that which was imported. The ultimate result of this improvement was to put the whole glue trade of the country in his hands. As with glue, so with isinglass. The market in America was chiefly supplied by Russia; isinglass of home manufacture was inferior. In a short time Mr. Cooper was making isinglass, and controlled the trade: the Russian article cost \$4 a pound, his was purchasable for 75 cents a pound. The demand was large and continued to increase. Isinglass was used in refining liquors, making fellies and nother ways, which increased rapidly in extent and variety with the growth of the country. This property had been purchased for \$2,900. It proved the source of the bulk of Mr. Cooper's fortune. For many years he carried on the business almost alone; he had no bookkeeper, no clerk, no agent, no salesman; he was up at the break of day and at his fact tory lighting the fires and preparing for work. Ancon he drove down to the city and made his sales; his evenings were passed with his family, when he posted his

THOUGHTS OF THE COOPER INSTITUTE. But Mr. Cooper never lost sight of his early purpose to build a great free school. When he bought the lease of land where the Bible House now is it was in a belief that the locality would some day be the centre of the city, and the very place for the school. His habits of economy were never relaxed; while he was doing his own business without bookkeeper, clerk or salesman, his profits were \$30,000 a year, and he was always talking of his school. He made his give from bullock's hoofs, and his factory consumed all the hoofs that the city could supply, Those were the days when Daniel Drew was build. ing up a fortune by buying cattle in the Ohio Valley, driving them over the Alleghany Mountains and finding large profits in the New York market So great was Mr. Cooper's demand for hoofs that the price advanced from one cent to twelve cents each; he continued to make money, however, advancing the price of glue, but still overcoming foreign commentation.

vaneing the price of glue, but still overcoming foreign competition.

Ten years of this business had made him a rich man, as wealth was measured fifty years ago. He had accumulated a large surplus capital available for investment. One day two men proposed to him that the three make a purchase of land in Baltimore, and offered him a one-third interest in 3,000 acres at a price of \$103,000. The land was within the city limits, and took in the whole shore from Pell's Point dock for a distance of three miles. Mr. Cooper paid his part of the purchase money, and soon discovered that neither of his partners had paid anything. He offered them \$10,000 to withdraw and they accepted it. The land was unprofitable, and in order to get a return for the investment he built from works on the ground. He owned 400 or 500 tons of from ore at Lazaretto Point, and determined to cut off the wood from the land and make charcoal from. He built a rolling-mill and constructed furnaces twenty feet in diameter. One day when he was at work before a furnace the gas burst forth, almost enveloping him with a sheet of flame. He narrowly escaped with his life.

EXTENDING THE FIELD OF HIS OPERATIONS.

side until he moved to the least state of the case curying on the gine business at the old factory, but in 1845 he decided to remove that part of his manufacturing enterprises to Wilnamsburg, as his lease had expired and the land was more valuable for other purposes. Accordingly he erected a large building in Maspeth-avel and majority of the control of the purpose of the majority of the control of the purpose. Accordingly he erected a large building in Maspeth-avel and majority of the control of the purpose had been decided by the control of the control o was more valuable for other purposes. According he erected a large building in Maspeth-ave, and mail organized his force and arranged his machinery when the building was burned down. The loss was \$40,000, and there was no insurance. Early on the morning after the fire one of his employees informed him of the loss. At once orders were given for clearing away the rums in preparation for a new structure, and before 9 ofclock lumber for it had arrived on the ground. The rebuilding went on rapidly, and when completed the new factory was three times larger than the first, being 990 feet in length. It is still standing and in use, Mr. Cooper was now nearly fifty-five years of age—a time of life when many men who have grown rich are giad to retire from business and seek rest for the remainder of their days. But not so with him. He had only succeeded in getting thoroughly under way with his work. Fifteen years more of labor were to be gone—through—before—the school—was built. He removed the iron mill—in Fourth-ave, to Treaton, where he put up additional iron factories. He was the first person to manning ture "Cooper Union" he desired it to be fireproof, but was unable to obtain the necessary iron begues. He then expended \$75,000 m to be fireproof, but was unable to obtain the neces-sary from beaus. He then expended \$75,000 m hen expended \$75,000 m

sary iron becaus. He then expended \$75,000 m machinery for rolling beams such as are now used in building, being the first person in the country to engage in this enterprise also.

The freaton venture proved successful, and the works were enlarged from time to time until they have become very extensive. At Phillipsburg, Penn., he built three large blast furnaces, and he bought the Durham furnace, three miles from Trenton. The production of his mills was not confined to building and railroad iron, but included various kinds of wire, such as he had made in New-York, and many other manuface. iron, bat included various kinds of wire, such as he had made in New-York, and many other manufactures of iron. For the Durham tarnaces he paid \$260,009. He also bought the Andover from mines, and to transport the ore to his factory he built a railroad eight mits in length over a rough country, on which he could transport 40,000 tons a year. This was wholly a private enterprise. In the iron, mining and give business he employed 2,500 men, and never in his business career, no matter what financial stringency or pance might exist, did he fail to pay them when their money was due. In the early contare in Fourth-ave, he had acquired habits of close attention to all the details of his business. Through economy, thrift and sagacity he had accumulated a large fortune, and these qualities were never lacking in his transactions. tions.

HIS INVENTIONS. Mr. Cooper had remarkable mechanical ability and inventive powers. Before he left his home to learn a trade he had found out how shoes were made by ripping an old shoe to pieces, and thereafter he made the shoes for the family. During his apprenticeship in the carriage factory, he made a machine for manufacturing hubs, and demonstrated the practicability of using compressed air as a notive power. Sixty years ago he made a model of a mowing machine, embracing the general principle of the machines now in use. When his first baby was machines how in the born at Hempstead, he made a self-rocking cradle with a fan attachment to keep off the flies, and a nusical instrument to soothe the baby. He ward sold the right to manufacture cradles of musical instrument to soothe the baby. He afterward sold the right to manufacture cradles of this kind. When Clinton was completing the Eric Canal, and before water had been admitted into it, he experimented on the East River to show how boats could be propelled with the aid of elevated water-power to move a series of endless chains. He made a chain two miles in length and placed posts 200 feet apart in the East River from Bellevue dock down town about a mile. These posts sapported grooved wheels to lay the chain in, forming an endless chain. The whole was moved by an overshoe waterwheel placed at the Bellevue cock. A reservoir tweive feet square and three deep held the water to turn the wheel. A boat in which sat Governor Clinton, Mr. Cooper, the father of Hamilton Fish, and Hemilton Fish, then a fittle boy, was attached to the chain and made the passage back and forth—two miles—in eleven minutes. The chain was arranged so that canal boats could be hooked or unhooked. Mr. Cooper ran boats for tendays to show what could be done, and carried 1,000 persons. This det.onstrated that the elevated water power along the line of the canal, and every lock, could be made use of to drive the boats. Governor Clinton paid Mr. Cooper \$800 for the privilege of using the method on the Eric Canal. I was never employed, however, bocuse the farmers who had old Middle Road. This factory occupied a part of the ground where the Park Avenus Horei now stands. It was a large structure and provided with means for doing an extensive business, but it had been mismanaged and the proprietor was anxious to dispose of it. Mr. Cooper listened to the suggestions of his friend, and said he would think of them. The next day found him at the factory in conversation with the owner; terms of sale were discussed, and in less than an bour the factory was purchased by Mr. Cooper for cash, with a lease of the ground for twenty years. He was now thurty years of age; had been in business one year, when are sold out to continue the business one year, when are sold out to turn the wheel. A boas in the delevate and three deep held the water to

given the right of way for the canal in the hope of a return from the sales of hay to owners of canal horses were opposed to it.

While in the iron business Mr. Cooper invented a

horses were opposed to it.

While in the iron business Mr. Cooper invented a process for reducing the ore, an invention since brought out in England, from which a large fortune was made. He also constructed a short railway, where, by means of an endless chain, empty and loaded cars were moved on two tracks placed one above the other. In 1824 or 1825 Mr. Cooper made a torpedo-boat for the Grecks, who were then struggling against the Turks in a cause which had enlisted the services of Lord Byron and many sympathizers with liberty in all parts of the world. A ship had been fitted out in New-York to aid the Greeks, but the torpedo-boat was not computed when it sailed, and shortly afterward it was burned in the glue factory. When at work as an apprentice in the coachmaking business, Mr. Cooper constructed at night a model to show how power could be obtained for a water-wheel from the natural current of the tide. The model is still in the garret of his house.

Mr. Cooper early took an active interest in the development of the telegraph system. Nearly thirty years ago he was president of the New-York, Newfoundiand and London Telegraph Company. He had a profound faith in no success of the ocean cable enterprise and risked the small part of his fortune in furthering the scheme. He had also been president of the American Telegraph Company and of the North American Telegraph Company and of the North American Telegraph Company and of the North American Telegraph Company and of the took part in the first expedition to lay a cable across the Gulf of St. Lawrence, an undertaken which failed at the time, but became the pioneer of final success. During the long scries of experiments and disappointments attending the laying of the cable Mr. Cooper was an earnest coworker with Cyrus W. Field, Moses Taylor, Marshall O. Roberts and Wilson G. Hunt. FOUNDING COOPER UNION.

The inspiration of the Cooper Union dates back to 1828. Mr. Cooper was then an Assistant Alderman of the city and represented that part of it which extends on the east side from Eighth-st. to King's Bridge, on the Harlem River. In the cle board he met a gentleman lately returned from France, who fold him to how hundreds of young mea went to Paris to attend the Polytechnic School, and underwent great hardships that they might receive the benefits of the lectures and instruction afforded by that institution. Mr. Cooper recalled his own early desire for such instruction, and resolved that when he had sufficient means he would build such a school. Twenty-five years ago, in Eighth-st., just above the spot where the Bowery branches into Third and Fourth aves, the foundation stone of the Cooper Union was laid. A scroll was buried with the corner-stone, which bore the in-cription:

The great object that I desire to accomplish by the crection of this institution is to open the avenues of scientific knowledge to the youth of our city and country, and so unfold the volume of Nature that the young may see the beauties of creation, enjoy its blessings, and learn to love the Author from whom cometh every good and perfect gift.

The school was "to be forever devoted to the such instruction, and resolved that when he had

The school was" to be forever devoted to the union The school was 16 be forever access to the americal of Science and Art in its application to the useful purposes of life." Five years passed before the building was finished. It is a brownstone and iron structure, theroughly fire-proof, of massive Koman architecture an irregular quadrangle in shape, having dimensions on its four sides of 90, 146, 165 and 195 feet. Its original cost sections of the site, which had been purchased sides of 90, 146, 165 and 195 feet. Its original coexclusive of the site, which had been purchased about twenty-live years before for this very purpose, was \$964,000. In 1869 Mr. Cooper gave a deed of trust of the property to a board of trustees consisting of Mr. Cooper as president, Daniel F. Tiemann, Edward Cooper, Wilson G. Hunt, John E. Parsons and Abram S. Hewitt. In the same year

deiling in clay. In these two departments there complayed twenty instructors for six nights of eweek. During the term 2,839 applicants were nitted to the classes, ertificates of proficiency are given after a satis-

correction of productions of the correction of t Women is to place within the reach of pupils practical and renumerative employment. But if instural ability to succeed in high art is shown the person is recommended to the Academy of Design. This school is divided into four departments, as follows: Drawing, linear, cast and life; Painting, especially in its application to photographs and wood and percelain ornamentation, and engraving and normal teaching.

The School of Telegraphy admitted sixty this last very though about sixty.

year, though about sixty
ed the examination, but
mitted for want of room. The Westproved on the company's lines. A department the Umon devoted to English literature has the Union devoted to English negrature has occa-very ancessful. An oratory and debating class, under the supervision of an instructor, has been in existence since the beginning of the evening schools. Regular lectures and practical instruction are also given in interature, rhetoric and elocution

are also given in literature, rhetoric and elocation by the curator, Dr. Zachos.

The reading-room and horary of the Union have for years been taxed to their full eapacity. The average daily attendance during a part of the winter season has been no less than 2,155. The readers chosily devote themselves to the newspapers and periodicals, of which there are of foreign and domestic publications 315 on rife. From 500 to 600 books are drawn out daily for consultation and reading to frawn out daily for consultation and reading it rooms. During the year 614,688 persons visited 22,013. The library numbers 18,200 volumes. Another feature of the institution, and a very popular one, is the system of free lectures for the people. They were more than ordinarily successful during the past year. The great half of the Union was well filled during the course, the attendance.

ouring the plat year. The great half of the Union was well filled during the course, the attendance varying from 1,500 to 2,500 [copie.]

Iwo years ago Mr. Cooper resolved to enlarge the accommodations at the Union for the art schools. He therefore added to the building on additional state. the art schools. He therefore added to the building an additional story, which has served the purpose of accommodating several additional classes. In January, 1880, the "Investors Institute" was opened in a small room on the second floor of the building. This is a private enterprise, in which Mr. Cooper was much interested, although he was not directly connected withit. The purpose is to give inventors and manufacturers an opportunity at a moderate cost of exhibiting their inventors mad manufacture. The ions, machines and articles of manufacture. The unstitution has grown rapidly in the two years of its existence, and now takes up a large part bo b of the first and second floors of the Institute building. The beneficent and far-reaching results of an in-struction like the Cooper Union are not easily rea-ized. In the twenty years of its work for the edu-cation of the industrial classes it has transferred cation of the industrial classes it has transferred the lives of thousands of youth from the unproduc-tive or servile comployments to which they would inevitably have failen into the higher plane of skilled artisans and original designers and teachers in the workshops and schools of the country. The Union can point throughout the land to miners, engineers, architects, builders, teachers and even professors in the higher departments of and even professors in the higher departments of science, who are directly indebted to its work in their behalf for their success in life. Many of the leading men of this and other countries have been greatly interested in it. Among these George Pea-body was prominent. Archbishop Hughes gave the Union sketches of Raphaer's decorations of the large rotanin at the Vatican in Kome, and once said in ard to the institution: "I have seen all the freat chartless of the Onl word and in this, and its his one the best. It is not sectarian, and its benefits are broader and deeper than all the rest." Richard Cobden, the distinguished English publicist, during his visit to this country was a frequent direr at zer. Cosper's house and became greatly interested in the Union. Matthew Vassar also, who had known Mr. Cooper all his life, having purchased one of his hap-disping machines, was frequently a visitor at Mr. Cooper's and often engaged with him in conversation on the subject of education. ME. COOPER'S POLITICAL CAREER.

In the affairs of his city and country Mr. Cooper

was always profoundly interested. As early as 1829 he was chosen an Assistant Alderman for three years, and was afterward elected Alderman. For several years he was an honored Sachem of Tammany Hall, but when that organization became mainly a means of promoting private and selfish ends he abandoned it. In 1849, while its presiding officer, he made a speech which attracted much attention on account of its appeal for an honest adtention on account of its appeal for an indistration of the city government. While a member of the Common Council he voted for the taxation of the city in support of the public schools. He was for twenty-five years either one of the school trustees or a member of the Board of Education. Public improvements, when he believed them to be conducive to the general good, always received his earnest support. Notable among these was the construction of the Croton Aqueduct, of which he was a prominent advocate.

to be conductive to the general good, always received his earnest support. Notable among these was the construction of the Corton Aqueduct, of which he was a prominent advocate.

Mr. Cooper was nominated for President by the National Independent, or Greenback, party, which met in convention at Indianapolis on May 17, 1876. The chief articles of his political creed were a protective tariff and a domestic currency incapable of exportation. He thought the Government should make the currency alegal-tender for all debts and Government dues; fix its value by the interest paid on it when converted into bonds, prevent over-issues by strict and just regulations as to the issue of bonds or currency, and let the neople themselves always regulate the relative amount of each by an interconvertible bond. When he was nominated at Indianapolis, the result of the ballot was telegraphed to Mr. Cooper, but he positively declined to accept the nomination. His reasons were entirely personal. But after earnest solicitations from his party friends, he at last gave a conditional acceptance, based upon the loope that one of the two National Conventions then to be held would take a favorable attitude toward the mancial opinions held by his party. Disappointed in that hope, he at last addressed an open letter to Governor Hayes and Governor Tilden on the subject, in which he announced his acceptance of the momination and set forth his reasons. He felt constrained to accept, he said, not with the hope of an election, but to vindicate a great principle in the management of the National finances.

The popular vote for the Greenback party proved to be small, only 81,737 in the enture country. In this city the Cooper ticket polled 280 votes and in Kings County about 67. The smallness of the vote in the cite that purpose. Mr. Groom seed Mr. Cooper darged Mr. Groom, in an open letter, with having secured money to the extent of several thousand dollars for use in circulating tickets, and then having failed to use it for that purpose. Mr. Groom se

provements and in other ways. He advocated the restoration of the silver coinage as a legal-tender, and favored Civil Service reform. Letters were sent to Congress expressing his views, and numerous tracts and documents were published by him. Mr. Cooper's opinions respecting the financial questions which have aguated the country in recent years were not the opinions of the majority; but he was sincere, earnest and most diffigent in their support. The laboring man always found in him strend. He gave aid to labor organizations and frequently in his speeches, and in other ways took up what he believed to be their cause.

HIS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS. were, rouge allowed everywhere in searched a posttion, but having great difficulty in anomalous of the complete of the posttion, but having great difficulty in anomalous of the complete of the posttion, but having great difficulty in anomalous of the complete of the posttion, but having great difficulty in anomalous of the complete of the posttion, but having great difficulty in anomalous of the complete of the posttion of the post
tion Mr. Cooper has been regarded as the patriarchal citizen of New-York. His birthdays in recent years

or the guests present with a topy of a newly published volume entitled "Ideas for a Science of Good Government," It contained his speeches and ideas on the tarif, finance, the civil service and other subjects. It was dedicated to his children, grandchildren and the pupils of Co per Institute. Mr. Cooper has lately been engaged in preparing for publication a volume containing a sketch of his life, with reminiscences of the great men whom he has known and the great events in which he has taken part. PERSONAL APPEARANCE AND HABITS.

Few persons among those who live to New-York City, at least, and who have attended any considerable number of public meetings, will require any aid to recall the personal appearance of Mr. Cooper. There have been few meetings, especially such as were held to promote industrial movements, in which his figure did not dignify the platform, and to the thousands who have enjoyed the benefits yielded by his great who have enjoyed the benefits yielded by his great philanthropy his every feature was familiar, for he was always in the midstof his work. In early life, it is said, he was slight of figure and deflecte of constitution. Strict hving and no stint of work, however, developed a strength and vigor of which the traces remained up to the time of his last sickness in a strong voice and a frame which though stooped under the burden of years was yet capable of considerable endurance. Mr. Cooper was a tall man. His features were less seamed and furrowed than those of many men twenty years younger, and had a kind and benighant expression. His forehead was broad and high, and the lines of the sides of his face tapered from his temples to his chin. A pair of old-tashioned spectacies with green sideshades covered his eyes, and his hair, long and silvery, hung down to his shoulders, while a long fringe of white beard surrounded the lower portion of his face. His manners were always cordial and simple toward strangers, and he enjoyed talking with them about his early life and the economic questions of the day. Instead of abating, his interest in the Institute grow with his years, and though he was willing to put aside the claims of his business he grow more and more engrossed in his system of industrial education, He used to yisit the Institute every day, unless the weather was violently stormy, and tearly every one of the attacks of sickness that came upon him of late years was traceable directly to exposure to cold during these visits, or over-taxation of mind or body. To his daughter, Mrs. Hewitt, who was the guardian of his health, those daily visits were a source of great concern. It was Mr. Cooper's custom of recent years to breakfast in his philauthropy his every feature was familiar, for he who was the guardian of his health, these daily visits were a source of great concern. It was Mr. Cooper's custom of recent years to breakfast in his own room. He was not a late sleeper and was ready to enter his carriage to ride to the Cooper Union always before moon and usually by 10 o'clock. By that time, moreover, he had informed himself of the news and discussions of the day by having the newspapers read to him. After spending about two hours in the building, dayding his time between the office and the various of the day by having the newspapers to a constraint of After spending about two hours in the building, dividing his time between the office and the various departments, he would again enter his carriage and he driven down town to his old place of business, No. 19 Buring-ship, or to one or the other of the corporations in which he was interested. Usually by 3 o'clock he was back in his home, where he took laucheon and rested in an easy chair till dincation. He received many callers, being accessions in the received many callers, being accessions. ner time. He received many callers, being access:

ner time. He received many callers, being accessible to everyone at almost all hours. His diet was of the simplest kind, nilk having formed his chier nutriment for the last ten years.

Mr. Cooper was a regular listener to the services of All Sonis Church, of which Dr. Bellows was the paster for a long time. He and William Cullen Bryant were always seen at the morning aervices, and before Mr. Cooper passed his mnetieth year he was invariably in his pew on Sunday at both morning and evening service. Since the Rev. Robert Collyer came to the city Mr. Cooper has been a frequent attendant at his church. Some of the thoughts of the venerable philanthropial in regard to a future state were hinted at Some of the thoughts of the venerable philan-thropist in regard to a future state were hinted at not long ago, when he said: "I sometimes think that if one has too good a time here below, there is less reason for him to go to heaven. I have had a very good time, but I know poor creatures whose lives have been spent in a constant struggle for existence. They should have some reward here-after. They have worked here; they should be re-warded after death. The only doubts that I have about the future are whether or not I have not had too good a time."

DOING HONOR TO HIS MEMORY. There were a great many evidences yesterday of the general sorrow at the death of Mr. Cooper. Early in the day flags were placed at half-mast on

New-York, in Gramercy Park, on all the Exchanges except the Stock Exchange, on Police Headquarters and all the stations, and all the buildings of the Fire Department, and on a number of private buildings. Justice Donohue adjourned Part II of the Supreme Court, as a mark of respect to the memory of the dead philanthropist, and a prominent business firm near Union Square placed a full-length, life-size crayon portrait of Mr. Cooper in the window of its salesroom and draped it appropriately with crape.

The news of Mr. Cooper's death spread rapidly, and very many of his old friends and those of the family called to express their sympathy with the relatives in their bereavement. Among the earliest callers was ex-Governor Tilden, one of the dead philanthropist's oldest friends. Ex-Lieutenant Governor Dorsheimer followed soon after. Later in the day Mayor Edson called. Among the many others were General Alexander S. Webb, ex-Controller Andrew H. Green, ex-Park Commissioner Charles F. MacLean, Police Justice Maurice J. Power, Assemblyman Michael C. Murphy, Colonel John Tracey, Public Administrator Algernon S. Sullivan, Dr. Carlos W. Zaremba, of Mexico; James Hail and E. J. Woolsey. During the day several telegrams of condolence were received by Abram S. Hewitt and

Edward Cooper, from various parts of the country. Last evening Mr. Hewitt received a cable dispatch from a friend of the dead man in England, expressing his sorrow on learning of the sad intelligence and tendering his sympathy.

The only outward indications to be seen at Cooper Institute that his founder and patron was dead were the flag which floated at half mast above the building, the few yards of crape which were

hung about the ceiling of the lobby of the reading room, and the black cloth which was arranged above the doors and windows of the Inventor's Institute. As soon as the news of Mr. Cooper's death was received at the building, the Inventors' Institute was closed and the exhibitors and officers decided to keep the rooms closed throughout the day and on Saturday. The officers will attend the funeral in a body. Formal action in regard to Mr. Cooper's death will be taken by them to-day.

Professor John C. Zachos, curator of the Institute,

when asked what effect Mr. Cooper's death would

have upon its work, said: "Mr. Cooper was strongly opposed to any ostentation or display in regard to anything con-nected with himself. When his wife died, he did not allow the classes or the readin g-room to be closed at all. This morning the classes were not held, because the teachers felt too deep sorrow to held, because the teachers feit too deep sorrow to do their ordinary work. This evening the classes will go on as usual. The reading-room has been open all day. I know that if Mr. Cooper could give instructions about the matter he would not have anything stop at the Institute on his account. The reading-room and classes will be closed on Saturday. The students are not organized among themselves at all, and have taken no action in regard to their benefactor's death. They will probably do so before Saturday, however. If the students wish it, they will have an opportunity to attend the funeral together. They will not be asked to do so if they do not voluntarily express such a desire. The anumni of the Institute, as soon as they hear of Mr. Cooper's death will, without doubt, meet and take appropriate action in regard to it. There will be no special meeting of the trustees. On Saturday night the Literary Society of the Institute will meet and pass appropriate resolutions. Mr. Cooper avoided as much as possible connections with business corporations. He always refused to hold office in them, as he disliked the publicity, responsibility and consequent annoyance which such offices would bring to him. I don't know, therefore, whether any such corporations will take action in regard to his death." do their ordinary work. This evening the classes

incusands of his fellow men, rejeicing daily in the asarrance that his work was not in vain with the childike
simplectry of a singular and genuine humility, and disbensing his benefactions alike to all—we bow reverenthally when we place on the records of the departed toe
name of Peter Cooper, the friend and patron of education, of science, of art and of huminity. Mr. Cooper began his service as a
school officer in 1838 as a trustee of the Fublic School
Society, and became a member of this Board on the 29th
of July, 1830, closing his torm of office on January 1,
1855. During the period of his labers he was an active
and powerin advocate and supporter of all the important interests of our public schools. After his
retirement from this Board, he devoted his wealth to the
foundation of an institution for the free education of the retirement from this Board, he devoted his wealth to it foundation of an institution for the free education of the laboring classes, which, through his liberal endowment will continue to distribute to future generations it bessings it now confers. As a representative America he was pre-eminent; as a self-made workingman, presented a noble example of perseveral pradence and success; as a philanthropist, it was peerless; as a practical and manifect pairon of art and inventions, no was without a superiow of units with a because city and state in our test mony to the purity of his life and labors, and in concephation of his mortal remains, we utter the work Well done," as he passes through the gates of immo tality.

tality.

He was a man that, take him all in all,
We ne or will look upon his like again.

A motion was passed and unanimously carried
to have this tribute engrossed and signed by all the
members of the Board, to be sent to Mr. Cooper's

The Board of Fire Commissioners met and passed The Board of Fire Commissioners met and passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Board learns with regret of the death of New-York's eminent critizen, Peter Cooper, whose great philanthropy and achievements in the fields of mechanics, manufactures, selence and aris, and services in the cause of good government, have made his name familiar and respected throughout the civilized world. Resolved, That as a token of respect to his memory,

the fings of the Department be piaced at half-mast from sunrise to sunset on the day appointed for the obsequies, and that in respect to his memory the Board do now ad-The Board of Aidermen will hold a special meet-

The Board of Aidermen will hold a special meeting at 1 p. m. to-day to take action concerning the death of Mr. Cooper, who was at one time a member of it. Eulogies on the life and works of the dead philanthropist will be delivered by several members, and suitable resolutions will be framed and passed.

Directly after the opening of the session of the East New-York Conference at the Cornell Memorial Church, the Rev. Dr. Buckley announced the death of Mr. Cooper. The conference by a rising vote adopted a resolution, placing on record its veneration for his Christian philanthropy. MARKS OF RESPECT IN THE LEGISLATURE. ALBANY, April 4 .- After some business had been transacted in the Senate to-day Mr. Fitzgerald arose and said the members of the Senate, in common with the people of the entire State and country, had heard with profound sorrow of the death of a man who had devoted his entire life to the work of doing good to his fellow-men, the revered

and venerable Peter Cooper, of New-York. He and venerable Peter Cooper, of New-York. He would, as an expression of the feelings of the Senate, offer the following:

*Resolved**, That, by the death of Peter Cooper the State has loss one of its most distinguished and venerable citizens; the Republic, one of its most entered and patrictic friends; the world, a man who made it better every day be lived in it; philanthropy, one of its most liberal, practical and far-seeing representatives; education, an illustrious benefactor; and religion, an example of faith and charity whose career and character blessed mankind. The Sonators of New-York recognize in the life of Peter Cooper a noble illustration of sagnificent virtues, resplendent achievements and of the principle that doing good unto others, by providing them with the aids to useful knowledge, is the best return which man can make for the benefits which he receives in the world. We rejoice that he was permitted to live to see the full fruition and to insure the perpetuation of the great systems of instruction and culture which he organized. We recognize that this Commonwealth ever should and ever will hold his spotless name and benign fame in peculiar love and honor. We tender to his nonored relatives and to the vast numbers who have been made his friends by his unaurpassed services for humanity, our profound condulence to their affliction. The life of such a man makes his death a poignant loss to the State, a bereavement to the Nation, and a marked reduction of the number of good and great men on the earth. Out of respect for his memory this Senate will now adjourn with this expression of its love and regard for the great citizen whose more than fourscore and ten years were replete with thoughts and decids which max his period on the earth one of the mate decision in max his period on the earth one of the most beneficent that was lived in the signt and service of man. would, as an expression of the feelings of the Sen-

In the Assembly M. C. Murphy presented the fol-

the Post Office, City Hall, the College of the City of lowing resolution, which was unanimously

whereas. We learn with regret of the de ath of our venerable and highly esteemed fellow citizen. Mr. Peter Cooper, who died early this morning after a long, useful and houverable life devoted to private charity and the public good. unic good, Resolved, That in respect to the memory of this dis-newished philanthrepist the rule established by this seembly fixing a session for Wednesday afternoons be secluded so far as it relates to this day.

A TRIBUTE TO THE DEAD PHILANTHRO PIST.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Would it not be a fitting tribute to the venerable philanthropist, who was loved and revered by the whole city, that all business men of every class and condition should observe the day of bis funeral by closing the store and the workshop? Let the clerk, the artisan and the laborer all be enabled to show their low in regard on that occasion. Yours truly,

New York, April 4, 1883.

H. A. Manning.

METHODIST CONFERENCES.

The New-York East Conference, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, began its thirty-fifth annual session yesterday morning at the Cornell Memorial Church in Seventy-sixth-st, between Second and Third aves. This conference includes the Methodist Churches in Western Connecticut, Long Island, and those Churches in Western Connecticut, Long Island, and those in New-York east of Third-ave. The church was filled with delegates and spectators. Of 293 delegates, :59 answered to their names, among them the Rev. Dr. Daniel Curry, the Rev. Dr. J. O. Peck, the Rev. Dr. M. L. Scudder, the Rev. Dr. W. W. Bowdish, the Rev. Dr. W. H. Boole, the Rev. M. B. Chapman, the Rev. J. E. Cookman, and the Rev. Dr. J. M. W. L. Harris occupied a seat beside Bishop Warren, of Georgia, the presiding officer. The presence of Mrs. Hayes, wife of ex-President Hayes, was expected,

but she was unable to be present.

Dr. Curry presented a resolution protesting against the introduction of sectarian religious services in public institutions. The Rev. Dr. Peck offered a resolution objecting to any law that should favor Sunday traffic objecting to any law that should favor Sunday traffic Both resolutions were adopted. The Rev. Dr. Goodsell was re-elected secretary of the conference and the standing committees were appeinted for the year. Dr. Buckley presented a resolution which was adopted after a sharp discussion, that the names of all former members removed from the conference, otherwise than by death, should be expunged from the minutes. The Rev. Dr. Thompson was transferred to the New-Jersey Conference. In the evening the Rev. Mr. Laning preached a missionary sermon that was followed by a reception to Bishop Warren in the chapel adjoining the church. The conference will continue its session to-day.

The eleventh ession of the Primitive Methodist Eastern Conference was continued yesterday in the Park

ern Conference was continued yesterday in the Park Avenue Church, Brooklyn. The morning session was occupied with routine business. In the afternoon a meeting for hollness was held, and addresses were made by the Rev. John Parker, Mrs. Phobe Palmer, Dr. Palmer and others, and in the evening three candidates for the ministry were ordained. They were the Rev. Messrs. James, Hancock and Penglase. The ordination services were conducted by the Rev. Messrs. W. H. Yarrow, Charles Spurr. D. Savage and C. Miles.

Boston, April 4.-The session of the New-England Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church opened this forencon, Bishop Bowman presiding. There were 142 members present. Standing committees were

THE INDIAN TROUBLES.

SANTA FE, N. M., April 4 .- Colonel Forsythe reports that he has lost the trail of the Indians in the

New-Haven, secretary and treasurer. Hameil, '84, was appointed delegate to Mott Haven. The question of trainer was discussed, and a resolution was adopted empowering a committee, composed of President Booth and Thompson, '85, to secure a trainer during the spring and to raise as much money as may be thought advisable.

THE MALLEY INSURANCE CASES.

New-Haven, April 4 -- The insurance cases of Edward Malley & Co., were begun to-day. There are thirty-one cases in all, and it was agreed by counsel that only one betried as a test case. The dry-goods store was burned February 28, 1882, and the aggregate amount of insurance was \$127,000. The Malleys claim amount of insurance was \$127,000. The Maineys clause that their loss was \$150,000. George P. Gross, of the firm of Proctor, Gross & McCuire, testified that the stock was worth from \$140,000 to \$150,000, and that his firm had offered to buy the Maileys out previously at actual

KILLED BY AN EXPLOSION OF GAS.

BALTIMORE, April 4 .- An explosion of gas ecurred this morning in a sewer which damaged the streets and sewer \$8,000 to \$10,000. Houses in the neighborhood were talared, several of them baving their plosion was caused by a boy throwing a lighted match into the man-hole of the sewer. This afternoon, while removing some of the debris, the bodies of Charles A. McCarrhy and Andrew Hintenach, ages five and six, were found in the sewer. They were playing in the street at the time of the explosion.

PRIZES AT THE DOG SHOW,

PITTSBURG, April 4.-This is the second day of the International Beach Show. The attendance is large. The following were awarded first prizes: Champion Pointer bitches, Lady Romp, A. H. Moore, of Phila delphia; Pointer bitches, Countess Bang, A. H. Moora, of Philadelphia; Black Field Spaniels, Harnell Lonanza, Hornell Spaniel Club, New-York; Black Spaniel dogs of bitches, Hornell Dandy, Hornell Spaniel Club, New-York.

EXPLOSION IN THE PALACE HOTEL. SAN FRANCISCO, April 3 .- An explosion of gas occurred in the celtar of the Paince Hotel here to day. The Fire Department and Underwriters' Patrol were quickly on hand, when a second explosion of greater violence blew out the sidewalk light and severely burned several monhers of the patrol. It is feared the nijuries of two will prove fatal. The damage to the property was light.

THE CODE OF HONOR IN MISSOURI.

St. Louis, April 4.-Colonel John Cardwell, Editor of the Austin, Texas, Statesman, published a card in his paper yesterday, in which he calls Major Chenowish, a member of the Lower House of the Legislature, to account for some criticisms he made on Mr. Ca d-well's conduct in relation to railroads, and denounces him as a deliberate flar and coward. A duct is appro-hended.

KILLED IN A PRIZE-FIGHT.

PITTSBURG, April 3 .- A Dubois, Penn., dispatch says: In a prize-fight here last evening between "Mike" McLaughlin and Martin Linksy, miners, six rounds were fought. In the last round both men clinched and fell, Linksy breaking his neck in the fall and dying instantaneously.

THE MEETING OF AN ARMY SOCIETY.

CHICAGO, April 4 .- General Sheridan has ssued a circular changing the date for the meeting of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland at Cincinnat to October 24 and 25.

By a new telephone invention a whisper can be heard at a distance of 750 miles, but that is nothing. When a farmer's wife goes to the door and faintly with pers "Come to dinner," it can be heard across a ten-acro lot field without a telephone.

It ain't right for a white man ter tell a nigger dar ain't no 'ternal punishment. It may not in jure de nigger's soul of he believes what de white man says, but it's ap' ter put his body ter a mignty incomvenience. I'so stood up in front ob a justice ob da peace more'n once.—[Arkansas Travelies.

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